

Great River Rescue Adoption Policy

Great River Rescue provides quality care for orphaned cats and dogs until a suitable home can be found. Adopting orphaned pets saves lives and provides a lifetime of love in return.

Adopting any pet is a serious commitment – in many cases lasting over 15 years – and requires careful consideration. All potential adopters must consider the commitment of time, responsibility, money, and love for the life of a companion animal.

This policy is designed to ensure our orphans are placed in the best possible home for the rest of their lives. Being the first person to apply for adoption does not guarantee being approved to adopt that animal. We make every attempt to find the best match possible between the orphan and its new family. Priority will be given to the family that can best meet the animal's needs based on its personality, size, and temperament.

Adopting a pet as a gift is challenging. Our attempt to match people with companion animals for a life time is paramount to the success of the adoption. Great River Rescue requires that the new owner of the pet complete the adoption contract and accept the responsibility of the long term commitment.

In addition, Great River Rescue does not adopt cats as “Barn Cats” unless attempts to socialize are futile. In such cases, the cat will be adopted to the prior mentioned homes.

No same-day adoptions are allowed. Adopting a companion animal is a serious commitment and should not be taken lightly. We encourage multiple visits to ensure the companion most suited to a potential adopter's lifestyle is found.

All animals will be spayed or neutered prior to adoption. There are no exceptions.

To have your application for adoption considered you must:

- Provide a valid driver's license or State ID,
- Be over the age of 18
- Show proof of your current address (current utility bill, lease, landlord statement)
- Supply verbal or written permission from your landlord (if applicable)
- Demonstrate the ability to provide a stable home, a safe environment, necessary veterinary care and nutrition, basic training, identification and companionship for the pet
- Complete the shelter adoption paperwork in its entirety prior to adoption (attached)
- Provide a reference from your veterinarian (if you have previously owned pets)
- Agree to speak with shelter staff at intervals of 7 days, 1 month, 3 months, and 6 months to assess the well-being of the pet